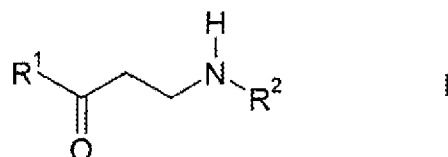


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I

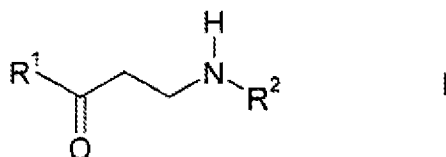


in which

- R¹ denotes a ~~saturated, unsaturated or aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic~~ thienyl or furyl radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R³ and/or R⁴, provided that R¹ is not 2,5-dimethyl-3-thienyl,
- R² denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,
- R³, R⁴ each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or COOR², F, Br, OH, CN, NO₂, N(R²)₂ or NHCOR²,

or a salt thereof.

2. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of a monoalkylaminoketone compound of the formula I

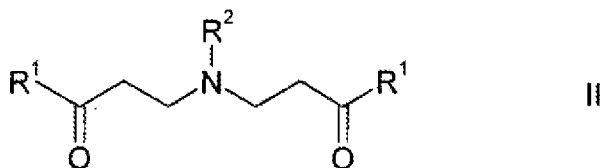


in which

- R¹ denotes a ~~saturated, unsaturated or aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic~~ thienyl or furyl radical which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by R³ and/or R⁴, provided that R¹ is not 2,5-dimethyl-3-thienyl,
- R² denotes alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

R^3, R^4 each, independently of one another, denote H, alkyl or alkoxy having 1-20 C atoms, aryl, aryloxy or $COOR^2$, F, Br, OH, CN, NO_2 , $N(R^2)_2$ or $NHCOR^2$,

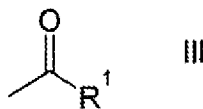
by reacting a compound of the formula II



in which

R^1 and R^2 have the meaning indicated above, in the presence of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 , in which R^2 has the meaning indicated above.

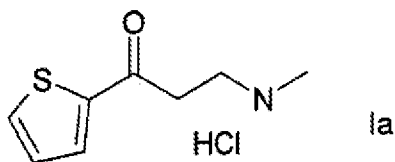
3. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** Process according to Claim 2, in which R^1 denotes ~~phenyl or~~ 2-thienyl.
4. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to Claim 2, in which R^2 denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.
5. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein the pH for the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is adjusted to about pH 2-7.5 by addition of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 .
6. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein the conversion of the compounds of the formula II into the compounds of the formula I is carried out at $0^\circ - 200^\circ C$.
7. **(Withdrawn – Currently Amended)** Process according to claim 2, wherein firstly the compound of the formula II is obtained by reaction of a mixture of a formaldehyde source with a corresponding alkylammonium salt and a ketone of the formula III



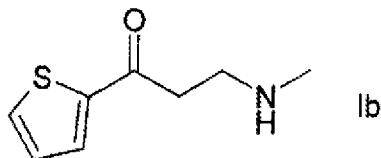
in which R^1 has the meaning indicated in ~~Claim 1~~ claim 2,

in the presence of a strong acid, and the compounds of the formula II obtained in this way are employed without further isolation for the preparation of the compounds of the formula I.

8. **(Withdrawn)** Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 6, wherein the pH of the strongly acidic reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is increased to about pH 2-7.5, without further isolation of this compound, by addition of an alkylamine of the formula R^2NH_2 , and the mixture is subsequently warmed.
9. **(Withdrawn)** Process for the preparation of compounds of the formula I according to Claim 7, wherein the reaction mixture comprising the compounds of the formula II is warmed to 0°C to 200°C after addition of a corresponding alkylamine.
10. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2 for the preparation of 3-methylamino-1-phenyl-1-propanone or 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone.
11. **(Withdrawn)** Process according to claim 2, wherein an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula II is employed, and an acid-addition salt of the compound of the formula I is obtained.
12. **(Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ia:



13. **(Previously presented)** A compound of claim 1 which is of the formula Ib:



or a salt thereof.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ denotes ~~phenyl or~~ 2-thienyl.

16. (Previously presented) A compound of claim 1, wherein R² denotes methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or isopropyl.

17. (Currently Amended) A compound of claim 1, wherein R¹ is selected from: 2- or 3-furyl, ~~or 2- or 3-thienyl, 1-, 2- or 3-pyrrolyl, 1-, 2-, 4- or 5-imidazolyl, 1-, 3-, 4- or 5-pyrazolyl, 2-, 4- or 5-oxazolyl, 3-, 4- or 5-isoxazolyl, 2-, 4- or 5-thiazolyl, 3-, 4- or 5-isothiazolyl, 2-, 3- or 4-pyridyl, 2-, 4-, 5- or 6-pyrimidinyl, furthermore preferably 1,2,3-triazol-1-, 4- or 5-yl, 1,2,4-triazol-1-, 3- or 5-yl, 1- or 5-tetrazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazol-4- or 5-yl, 1,2,4-oxadiazol-3- or 5-yl, 1,3,4-thiadiazol-2- or 5-yl, 1,2,4-thiadiazol-3- or 5-yl, 1,2,3-thiadiazol-4- or 5-yl, 3- or 4-pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-indolyl, 4- or 5-isoindolyl, 1-, 2-, 4- or 5-benzimidazolyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzopyrazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzoxazolyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzisoxazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzothiazolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benzisothiazolyl, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-benz-2,1,3-oxadiazolyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-quinolyl, 1-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-isoquinolyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-cinnolyl, 2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-quinazolinyl, 5- or 6-quinoxalyl, 2-, 3-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-2H-benzo[1,4]oxazinyl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl, 1,4-benzodioxan-6-yl, 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4- or 5-yl, 2,1,3-benzoxadiazol-5-yl, 2,3-dihydro-2-, 3-, 4- or 5-furyl, 2,5-dihydro-2-, 3-, 4- or 5-furyl, tetrahydro-2- or 3-furyl, 1,3-dioxolan-4-yl, tetrahydro-2- or 3-thienyl, 2,3-dihydro-1-, 2-, 3-, 4- or 5-pyrrolyl, 2,5-dihydro-1-, 2-, 3-, 4- or 5-pyrrolyl, 1-, 2- or 3-pyrrolidinyl, tetrahydro-1-, 2- or 4-imidazolyl, 2,3-dihydro-1-, 2-, 3-, 4- or 5-pyrazolyl, tetrahydro-1-, 3- or 4-pyrazolyl, 1,4-dihydro-1-,~~

~~2, 3 or 4 pyridyl, 1,2,3,4 tetrahydro 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 pyridyl, 1, 2, 3 or 4 piperidinyl, 2, 3 or 4 morpholinyl, tetrahydro 2, 3 or 4 pyranlyl, 1,4 dioxanyl, 1,3-dioxan 2, 4 or 5 yl, hexahydro 1, 3 or 4 pyridazinyl, hexahydro 1, 2, 4 or 5-pyrimidinyl, 1, 2 or 3 piperazinyl, 1,2,3,4 tetrahydro 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8-quinolyl, 1,2,3,4 tetrahydro 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 isoquinolyl, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 or 8-3,4 dihydro-2H-benzo[1,4]oxazinyl, 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2,3-ethylenedioxyphenyl, 3,4-ethylenedioxyphenyl, 3,4-(difluoromethylenedioxy)phenyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran 5 or 6-yl, 2,3-(2-oxomethylenedioxy)phenyl, 3,4-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodioxepin 6 or 7-yl, 2,3-dihydro-benzofuranyl or 2,3-dihydro-2-oxofuranyl,~~
each optionally substituted by R³ and/or R⁴.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) A compound of claim 1, wherein R³ and R⁴ are both H.